

THE WHALE'S TALE



*Frances Kelsey Secondary's
latest breaking news and views*

November 5, 2007 Vol. 13/No. 2

Frances Kelsey Girls' Volleyball Teams on a Roll!

by Mark Jackson, Coach

Frances Kelsey Secondary School is now known throughout the School Volleyball scene in BC and western Canada as the capital of girls'

a very high level of play. Most of our girls play volleyball all year long including Beach Volleyball in the summer.



2007-2008 Senior Girls' Team

volleyball. Both the Senior and Junior girls' teams are top ranked in their divisions.

The Senior girls recently enjoyed a two week stint at the number one spot in AAAA School Girls' Volleyball rankings. Number one out of a sixty four team division! Senior Girls' Volleyball in our province is the most amazingly competitive sport, in part because most high schools have feeder club programs which in turn has led to

Frances Kelsey Senior Girls' Volleyball team is ranked number one as the result of their talents, combined with some really hard work and commitment. Some of the players can even be found at early morning practices, which are held on Wednesday at 6:15 a.m.!

This meteoric vault to the top of the rankings occurred after a string of impressive

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For complete information about the school, visit our web site at fkss.ca.



Kelsey Calendar

Mon. November 5, 2007

Formal report card issued with newsletter
6:30 p.m. School District Round Table Forum at George Bonner Middle School

Wed. November 7, 2007

Grade 9 "Take Your Kids to Work" Day

Thurs. November 8, 2007

10:00 a.m. Remembrance Day Ceremony
1:05 p.m. dismissal. Parent/Teacher Conferences 1:30-4:30 p.m. and 6:00-8:00 p.m.

Fri. November 9, 2007

Day in lieu (school not in session)

Mon. November 12, 2007

Remembrance Day (school not in session)

November 13 & 14, 2007

Grade 10, 11 and 12 Provincial Exams

Wed. November 14, 2007

7:00 p.m. PAC meeting in library

Thurs. November 15, 2007

1:00 p.m. Coffee & Chat with PAC Executive and the Administration

Tues. November 20, 2007

7:00 p.m. Dry Grad meeting in library

Sat. November 24, 2007

10:00 - 3:00 Grad bottle drive

Mon. November 26, 2007

Balance Day with College/University presentations in morning

Wed. November 28, 2007

1:05 p.m. dismissal - Professional Learning Community

The Career Centre News has been posted to the Kelsey website

Our New Staff

We are pleased to announce Mr. Aubrey Zeeman has joined the staff of Frances Kelsey Secondary for Term One and will be teaching Math and Science.
Welcome, Mr. Zeeman!

Scholarships and Bursaries

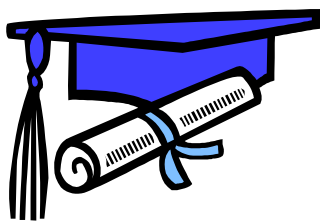
by Liz Gamble, Vice-Principal

Many thanks to the over 100 students and parents that attended our evening presentation on 'preparing your scholarship and bursary package'. Grade 12's should now be preparing academic resumes, cover letters and applications for scholarships and bursaries, examples of which are available from Mrs. Gamble. Students should be aware that academic resumes are different from employment resumes. Graduates presenting high quality packages are often very successful in acquiring post secondary funding; therefore, students requiring assistance should meet with Mrs. Gamble and Mrs. Munday as soon as possible if they have any questions.

By now all Grade 12's have met with their counsellor to review

their Ministry transcripts.

We are starting to receive scholarship application forms. Please be aware that many of these are very specific and the competition for them is very intense. Usually for large



scholarships a student is in competition with the rest of Canada and sometimes all of North America. See www.bcawardsonline.sd61.bc.ca for more details.

What should Grade 12's be doing now?

By using the Career Centre,

college and university calendars, internet sites, and visiting the college personnel, students should be:

- deciding on which programme of studies they wish to take next year;
- deciding on which college/university they wish to attend next year;
- finding out about application deadlines, residence deadlines, and scholarship deadlines;
- finding out about any unions, groups or affiliates to organizations that their parents and grandparents have belonged to;
- requesting reference letters.

Applications now due

Malaspina University-College, BCIT, and most Vancouver College applications are due soon, some in November. Camosun College applications are due in January. University applications in BC are due in February.

Key websites for graduates

- Graduation program: www.bced.gov.bc.ca/graduation
- Career planning and post-secondary options in BC: www.educationplanner.bc.ca, www.careercruising.com
- Your guide to post-secondary education programs and institutions in BC: www.bced.gov.bc.ca/careers Offers students and parents information on post-secondary education, careers and the work force.
- Student financial aid: www.aved.gov.bc.ca/studentservices/ Your online guide to information about financial assistance programs including grants, loans and interest relief.
- Provincial examinations Frequently Asked Questions: www.bced.gov.bc.ca/examfaqs.htm
- Exams, transcripts and scholarships: data management and student certification: www.bced.gov.bc.ca/departments/rdda/
- BC colleges/universities scholarships: www.scholarships.canada.com, www.studentsawards.com, www.bcawardsonline.sd61.bc.ca
- Online applications in BC: www.pas.bc.ca
- Canadian universities and colleges: www.schoolfinder.com

For more information about any scholarship or bursary, please see Mrs. Gamble. Further websites can be found through the Library Homepage.

Available applications for non-local scholarships with November and December deadlines:

- Canadian Federation of University Women Cowichan Valley
- Certified Management Accountants Society of BC
- University of Alberta Academic Excellence Scholarship Competition
- Scotiabank and studentawards.com



Party plans are underway! At the end of next June, parents of graduating students will host this year's Dry Grad - a safe, all-night party for our kids, with terrific events, food, and prizes.

Our first fundraising activity was the Firewood Sale on Oct. 20th and 21st. Though there was a drizzle of rain, it didn't dampen the spirits and efforts of the many students and parents who turned out to chop, split, and load the trucks. We filled approximately 100 orders and raised around

Dry Grad

\$7000.00. Wow! Besides the hardworking parents and students who helped, we wish to send a huge thank you to the following: TimberWest Forest, Tim Horton's, Richard and Barb Sager, Aitken and Fraser, Drillwell Enterprises, Cowichan Rentals, Thrifty Foods, Tools To Go, Canada Safeway Ltd, Mill Bay Power Products, Cobble Hill Country Grocer, The Island Water Store, Island Bakery, St. John's Ambulance and the buyers!!

We've begun planning for our Silent Auction next spring. If you or your business would like to support Dry Grad by donating an item for the auction, or with a cash donation, please call Linda O'Neil at 743-7866. Thank you!

FKPAC

Please come and joint us
at our next meeting on
Wednesday, November 14
7:00 p.m. in the
Kelsey library

**2007-2008
DRY GRAD
MEETING**

Tuesday, November 20
7:00 p.m. in the
Kelsey library
Everyone welcome
For more information
please call 743-0380

Our next meeting will be Tuesday, November 20th at 7:00 p.m. in the Kelsey library. All parents of Grads are most welcome. Meetings end around 8:00 p.m.

Grad 2008 Fundraising Event

Bottle Drive on Saturday, November 24th
10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. at Kelsey

Drop-off welcomed and pick-up provided

Call 743-6916 for alternate pick-up times and more information

The *Whale's Tale* is distributed on the first Monday of each month, excluding holidays. Layout by Nancy Bonner, Library Assistant. Edited by staff and Administration.

From the Library



A keen group of students is continuing to review this year's nominations for the Stellar Teen Reader Award. It's not too late to join, and our next meeting will be Monday,

November 19th at lunch in the library. See Mrs. Emblem for information - come and check out the books!

Library Resource Centre Update

Bookmark the Library home page. It has a large number of links with curricular connections and can be accessed from the school homepage: <http://www.fkss.ca> All of the online encyclopedias we subscribe to have home access. Students can pick up the passwords at the library circulation desk. Also, the database eLibrary (BigChalk) is now accessible from home. These are all valuable research tools. Encourage your sons and daughters to start their research using the Library home page, especially if they are at a loss as to where to start their searching. This page has been developed with the students' needs in mind.

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by CJ Kubica, President
FKPAC

On Monday, November 5th, the

Cowichan Valley School District will be hosting the Community Forum for the South End Zone. This is an opportunity for all south end parents and residents to meet with trustees and district staff to discuss "What matters to you most as the District tries to balance the provision of programs, facilities and transportation". Meetings have already been held in the North, Central, and Lake Zones. It is important that the District hear from the South End Zone as well. There are changes currently

being made to funding from the Ministry and, beginning in January, School District 79 will have a new superintendent. This is our opportunity to express our views and concerns. The meeting will be held at George Bonner from 6:30 - 8:30 p.m.

The next PAC meeting will be held on Wednesday, November 14th.



Cowichan Centre's Youth Corner, a Drop-In Centre upstairs in the Maple Room!
Come play foosball, video games, get involved community projects, or just chill out with friends.
Mon-Wed 3:00 to 6:00 p.m., Thurs-Fri 3:00 to 9:00 p.m. and Sat 5:00 to 9:00 p.m.
FREE

Breakout Recreation - Ages 12 to 18

Fed up with the same tired routine? Then break out!!!

A neutral place for youth to hangout, shoot hoops, play soccer, or invent an entirely new game. Opportunities for free play as well as some organized activities in a supervised venue.

Participants do not have to be a student at Bench.

Tuesdays to November 27th - 5:00 to 7:00 p.m.

Meet at Bench Elementary School Gym

Cowichan Bay Youth Action Krew (CB YAK) - Ages 12 to 18

Get your voices heard, and put your ideas into action!

This is a FREE program for youth who want to hangout, as well as plan, organize, fundraise, and implement recreational activities and special events for themselves as well as their peers in the Cowichan Bay area. Practice leadership and earn volunteer hours.

Tuesdays to November 20th - 7:00 to 8:00 p.m.

Meet at Bench Elementary School Gym

Youth Dance - Ages 10 to 15

Come bust a move with all your friends at the Cowichan Centre. Request songs, dance, hangout, meet new friends from other schools as well as the awesome staff.

Friday, November 30th - 7:00 to 10:00 p.m.

Pre-buy tickets at the ticket centre to ensure a spot or, if you are lucky, at the arena office the night of the Dance.

For more information please contact Leah or Denise at 746-0420
or email youthoutreach@cvr.d.bc.ca

Gourmet A la Carte Luncheons

at The Malaspina Room (formerly the Frances Kelsey Dining Room)

Tuesday - Friday 11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Join us for a gourmet dining experience at a reasonable price while supporting students enrolled in Malaspina University-College's Culinary Arts Program. Under the supervision of professional cooking instructors, students prepare and serve gourmet cuisine made from many locally produced ingredients!

Reservations recommended - call 250 743-0548



Balance Day 2007/2008

"Expanding Your Horizons"

By Wendy Thomas, Student Planning Council

If you are new to FKSS, you may be wondering "what on earth is Balance Day?" Our first Balance Day was October 2005 and our second was February 2007. Balance Day grew from our School Planning Council (SPC) #1 goal which is to increase student performance by improving WELLNESS including physical, emotional and social well being.

All students will be given Learning Guide credit for attending all day. The staff at Frances Kelsey Secondary School have chosen Monday, November 26th as this year's Third Annual Health and Wellness Balance Day. This year the day will take on more of a "job fair" type

approach and will explain why we have chosen the "Expanding Your Horizons" title as part of the conference. November 26th is the day that most of the Universities, Colleges and Art Colleges in the Province will be at FKSS to promote their secondary education facilities to our Grade 11 and 12 students. Grade 9's and 10's will be participating in a "Justice Theatre" presentation and a Kelsey Drama presentation. Keeping those themes in mind, the staff and organizing committee decided to continue with that theme. Our parent committee of Judy Eburne, Sharleen Impett, CJ Kubica and Wendy Thomas, and the Student Balance Committee, have been busy inviting professionals from all over the island and the mainland to come and talk to our students about their

choice of profession. We have lined up a huge number of guest speakers ranging from doctors to photographers, hairdressers to chiropractors, and everything in between. It is shaping up to be a great day!

The parent organizing committee is currently looking for volunteer guest speakers to do one and/or two sessions from 12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m. and 1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. that afternoon. We do have a small honorarium available. If you or someone you know would like to be part of our day, please contact Wendy Thomas at 743-2939 or CJ Kubica at 743-2245.

Our PAC has generously supported the day by providing lunch for all in attendance.

An Important Message from School District 79: Access to School Premises

Preamble

The rapidly increasing numbers of parents who drop off and pick up their children from school, coupled with the very restricted grounds around most of our schools, has created both a traffic and a safety problem at our institutions. The congestion of vehicles and students at schools in the morning and at dismissal times has caused a number of incidents in which children have nearly been struck. In most instances there is not enough room on the school grounds to provide for vehicular access by parents for drop-off and pick-up without seriously reducing the amount of playground space available. Accordingly, the following policy is established.

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Policy

In order to provide a safe environment at all school premises, there shall be no public vehicular access to the grounds for pupil pick-up or drop-off, except that required for handicapped or emergency access, and except where specific provisions are made for pick-up and drop-off.

Policy Objective

1. To increase safety for students.

Administrative Regulations

1. Unrestricted access for emergency, bus transport and service vehicles shall be maintained at school premises.

2. No vehicles operated by the general public (including parents, guardians and visitors) shall stop, stand or park on school premises so as to restrict the access of emergency, bus transport, service and employees' vehicles.

3. In the event of student injury or illness while the student is attending school, parking shall be available on the school premises for parents or guardians while picking up the student.

4. Visitors to school will park in designated visitors' parking spaces or in the employees' parking lot only.

'Edumedia - Sciences'

Math and Science Resources

Students and staff of School District 79 have these resources available for the 07-08 school year. The site contains over 400

math and science animated resources related to the prescribed learning outcomes for math and science in the middle

and secondary years. Our school password is available from Mrs. Emblem in the library.

Family Capacity Program

Do you feel that your family is in a "rut" and no matter what you do, things do not change and family members are unhappy? All families go through some ups and downs. However, there may be times when these situations feel overwhelming or have gone on for an extended period of time.

The *Family Capacity Program* is available for families who are experiencing elevated conflict, parenting issues, turmoil from a separation or divorce, and various other situations.

The intent of the program is to assist your family to reach its

capacity to provide a healthy environment for your children to grow. This program is offered to the community by the Child & Youth Team of Canadian Mental Health Association. You can access this service by calling Joyce at 746-5521 or email cmhacvbfam@shaw.ca

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tournament results. The team placed third at the UBC Senior Girls' Volleyball tournament, first at the Malaspina tournament, second at Handsworth Secondary tournament and first at Brentwood College tournament.

The Senior Girls' team includes the following athletes:

Andrea Dougan - "Powerhouse" is the Team captain and brings great leadership both on and off the court. She is one the most dominant players in the league and her blocking is an amazing asset to the team, along with her outside hitting.

Dannie Richards - "Bulldozer" is one of the best forearm passers in Canada, is a dynamo on the court with her aggressive coverage, is great on offense with some spectacular hitting abilities, and has a great jump serve.

Alissa Fugitt - "The One" is our team libero or back court specialist. She received MVP honours at the 40 team Malaspina tournament recently and her ability to dig up a hard hit is legendary.

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Stephanie Lindal - "Short Stuff" is our team setter and runs the offense. Stephanie is very good at reading the other team and then running the most appropriate plays. She also has a great serve.

Alena Larsen - "Tower of Power" has really bolstered our right side with some phenomenal hitting. Her defensive skills are very good as well.

Janet Whitney-Brown - "Looney-Tunes" is an amazing server and has bailed us out of many high pressure situations with pinpoint and aggressive serving. She is rapidly becoming a blocking force at the net.

Brooke Anderson - "Hollywood" is also becoming a dominant net player and her blocking is very quickly becoming recognised. Brooke has also had success on the serving line in some big matches.

Joanna Franke - the "Hammer" is quickly living up to her nickname as her outside hits are both powerful and accurate. Joanna has become a really strong server.

Angela Richards - "Curly" is a great hitter and passes very consistently. Angela also has a great jump serve.

Now that the exhibition season is over the team is heading to Nanaimo next weekend to the North Island Senior Girls' AAAA Championships at Nanaimo District Secondary. Following that they are off to the Island Championships at Spectrum Secondary in Victoria. The team is hoping for a great result at the AAAA Provincials which are being held at Semiahmoo Secondary in Whiterock from November 30th - December 2nd.

The Frances Kelsey Junior Girls' A team has also enjoyed unprecedented success after winning their own invitational tournament and then placing second at the prestigious Handsworth tournament in North Vancouver. Next up for the team is the Mt. Doug invitational tournament in Victoria. The Junior Girls' Team includes Kimberly Stewart, Hollie Moulaison, Rachael Mokosak, Hanna Robinson, Sarah Cook, Haley Leech, and Marly Cardin.

